

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04
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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, EEC
SUBJECT: EC COUNCIL WORKING GROUP BRIEFLY DISCUSSES PROPOSED
INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIALIZATION INSTITUTE (III)

REF: (A) STATE 43086, (B) EC BRUSSELS 929

1. EC PERMDEL AND COMMISSION OFFICIALS TELL US THAT THE
EC COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP BRIEFLY DISCUSSED
PROPOSED III ON FEBRUARY 16. PERMDEL CONCLUSION WAS
REACHED AND THE GROUP'S CHAIRMAN DID NOT SUM UP THE DISCUSSION.
HOWEVER, MEMBER STATE EXPERTS FROM THE NETHERLANDS, UK, FRANCE
AND FRG WHO SPOKE ON THE PROPOSAL GENERALLY INDICATED RESERVA-
TIONS.

2. THE UK AND DUTCH QUESTIONED THE NEED FOR AN ADDITIONAL
INSTITUTION IN THIS AREA. THEY NOTED THAT THE III WOULD
OVERLAP SOMEWHAT WITH ONGOING ACTIVITIES OF UNIDO,
VARIOUS RESEARCH GROUPS AND THE EC INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
CENTER, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE LOME CONVENTION.
THE FRENCH ADDED THAT MANY LDCS WERE COOL TOWARD THIS
PROPOSAL. SO FAR GENERALLY ONLY THOSE LDCS WHICH ARE
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CLOSELY LINKED TO THE US HAD INDICATED SUPPORT FOR IT.
THEY CONSEQUENTLY SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THE US SHOULD
PURSUE THIS PROPOSAL BILATERALLY. THE FRG ALSO
INDICATED LITTLE SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL AND SUGGESTED
THAT THE CURRENT US PROPOSAL DID NOT SEEM TO REFLECT
FULLY THE III DISCUSSIONS AT PRINCETON LAST SUMMER.

3. COMMISSION OFFICIALS DO NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PRODUCTIVE TO PURSUE FURTHER THE III WITH THE COMMUNITY AS GROUP AT THIS TIME UNLESS SUBSTANTIAL NEW ELEMENTS ARE INCORPORATED INTO THE PROPOSAL. PERMDEL OFFICIALS SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THIS WAS JUST A PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION. THEY SUGGEST THAT THE US PURSUE THIS PROPOSAL BILATERALLY WITH KEY MEMBER STATES AND DELAY FURTHER EC DISCUSSIONS UNTIL ONE OR MORE MAJOR MEMBER STATES INDICATE SUPPORT FOR IT. EC OFFICIALS GENERALLY INDICATE THAT THERE ARE CURRENTLY TOO MANY PROPOSALS TO CREATE NEW INSTITUTIONS TO ASSIST LDC DEVELOPMENTAL EFFORTS. THEY SUGGEST THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE AN INDICATION OF THE PRIORITY THE US ASSIGNS TO THESE VARIOUS PROPOSALS.

4. MISSION OFFICERS HAVE DISCUSSED REF. A WITH FRISCH AND MALTZAHN'S DEPUTY OF THE COMMISSION. BOTH APPRECIATED RECEIVING ADDITIONAL US VIEWS ON III, BUT IN LIGHT OF ABOVE DISCUSSION WERE NOT HOPEFUL OF EC SUPPORTING III AT THIS TIME. THEY WOULD WELCOME FURTHER COMMENTS, ESPECIALLY REPORTS ON ADDITIONAL LDC SUPPORT FOR III. HINTON

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